



ALEXANDRIA, VA.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22.

Sulphur never acted more beautifully, as the doctors say, in the cure of itch than the bold course lately adopted by the Western democrats has done in curing the radicals of the violent attack of audacious bravado that Mr. Chandler, a member of the Cabinet, but next to the President, their peculiar representative. Indications of the cure were apparent upon the first administration of the remedy, and have become daily more and more developed, until the disease may now be said to be completely checked, and time only is wanted to effect a perfect cure. If any of our readers have lingering doubts upon the subject, let them read the leading editorial of this morning's Washington Republic, published in another column.

The democrats of Illinois have followed the example of their party in Indiana and Ohio. Their State central committee met at Springfield yesterday and adopted a resolution affirming the constitutional right of the House to participate in the electoral count, and denying the right of the President of the Senate to conduct the count alone; also declaring that meetings shall be held in each county in the State December 30, of citizens, irrespective of party, for the selection of delegates to a convention in Springfield, January 5, and expressing the belief that all good citizens will be in the movement for free government, and that the proceedings of the convention will be in harmony with the gravity of the occasion.

A petition prominent citizens of Philadelphia has been forwarded to Congress expressing the hope that the two houses will earnestly seek some mode of reaching a decision of the Presidential question that will satisfy the conscience of the country. Patriotic men in all quarters of the Union cheer in the action of these Philadelphians, and it really seems that honest men could grant their petition without much trouble.

Another fire, the sixth within a week, occurred at Little Rock, Arkansas, last night, destroying \$160,000 worth of property. It, like the others, was the work of incendiaries, to punish whom a vigilance committee is being organized.

The death of Hon. Allen T. Caperton, of West Virginia, was announced in the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives, yesterday, and among those who pronounced eulogies were Senator Withers and Representatives Goode and Tucker, of Virginia.

The bill in relation to the use of troops in the States, introduced into the House of Representatives yesterday, was by Gov. Walker, of Virginia, and not General Watkins, as erroneously printed.

Lo! A Troop Cometh.

One conversation with the public by President Grant was more rare than at one time, and that time not far back, expected, but instead of one we have a troop. The last was through the medium of a correspondent of the Chicago Inter Ocean, in which said correspondent suggested to him that several newspapers had spoken of the advisability of electing him to the Senate in the place of General Logan, so that he might be made President pro tem. of the Senate, and continue in the White House if there should be an interim before the inauguration of Hayes. To this suggestion he replied in the following language: "My old friend Houghton, of Oregon, suggested my name for United States Senator from Illinois, and the suggestion was copied approvingly into one of the Chicago papers. When I saw this article I immediately wrote to my friends in Illinois that I could not be a candidate, for three reasons:

"First. Although I consider myself a citizen of Illinois, and not a citizen of any other State or any Territory, yet I do not consider that I have resided within the State continuously enough during the last twenty years to entitle me to a candidacy for the office of United States Senator.

"Second. I have been a servant of the public for the last sixteen years, and on the 4th of March next I propose to see how it seems to be a sovereign.

"Third. And, more important than all, I am in favor of the re-election of General Logan as against any other candidate, because he has proved an able, laborious, influential Senator, and should be returned. And further than that, he was one of the bravest and most influential officers in the Union army. The people ought to remember that when the war broke out Logan was a democratic Representative in Congress from a district that gave him 18,000 majority. If he had been a copperhead, he could have thrown obstructions in the way of raising Union troops in southern Illinois that could hardly be estimated. Instead of this, he was prompt, fearless and unflinching on our side from the start."

The President said further that he did not think he would ever again be a candidate for a public office.

Foreign News.

It is believed that Turkey will fight rather than accept the occupation of Bulgaria by any foreign state. Otherwise the prospects of peace continue favorable. The Danish Cabinet has been defeated in the Chamber of Deputies. Eleven women and twenty-one men, students at the school of medicine, St. Petersburg, have been arrested for shouting "Liberty." There are 722 cases of small pox in the London Hospital. Cardinal Ruffini succeeds Patrizi as dean of the Sacred College. The Austro-Hungarians are incensed against the Servians for the insult to the Austrian monitor. It is reported that Persia will occupy Bagdad, Asiatic Turkey, in case of war in the East. Queen Victoria will open the next session of the British Parliament in person. The Government of Cuba have published a decree prohibiting code and cipher messages to and from the Island of Cuba on and after to-day.

The Disputed States.

LOUISIANA.

Before the Congressional investigating committee in New Orleans, yesterday, J. Madison Wells, president of the returning board, testified: Sent for boxes of Concordia parish at the instance of ex-Gov. Harris; did not know then and do not know now he had an interest as a candidate at the late election; we found on examining the tickets that all the electors had been voted for, but the votes were not properly counted; we counted the tickets and included them in our compilation; the votes omitted were on the republican side; haven't made an estimate of the aggregate vote thrown out; can't tell the number of votes thrown out for each party without referring to the books; don't consider what party would be affected by the votes thrown out; think they threw out East or West Baton Rouge; don't recollect which; declined to furnish original papers to the committee because they belong to the State; don't recollect that the law requires the board to canvass from the statement of commissioners instead of supervisors; received boxes from Concordia that did not come through the supervisors; refused to consider Grant parish because it did not come through the supervisors.

Mr. Jenks.—If the supervisor was known enough not to forward returns and you had returns made by the commissioners of election, did you canvass such vote?

Gov. Wells.—No, sir. We canvassed no votes not received through supervisors. The attention of Gov. Wells was here called to the fact that the boxes from Concordia did not come through supervisors.

Gov. Wells replied (excitedly) no, sir. How could they?

In answer to questions Gov. Wells said: No one but members of the board were present at the private session; minutes are made after the private session from memorandum kept by the members of the board.

The law requires that the commissioners of elections shall be appointed from both parties, but I don't know that all the polls in the State were represented by democratic commissioners, and do not know that there was any democratic supervisor of registration in the State. We sent for ballot boxes in East Baton Rouge, but did not count those boxes for what was considered good and sufficient reason.

I can't say whether the boxes from Concordia were received and opened in secret session, or that the democrats knew that these boxes were being sent for; believe a request was made to send for the boxes of polls in the parish of Orleans from which supervisors made no returns. The board did not consent to send for them; threw out no poll in the parish of Orleans that was returned to the board, but do not remember if all the polls in the parish were returned; all the decided partizan, but would not allow politics to influence me to do anything unjust; did not throw out parishes and polls simply because they gave democratic majorities; don't know that any republican poll in the State was rejected; did not state to Mr. Jenks in 1874 that as the republicans had the majority of the government and I had a claim against the government that my action on the returning board must be governed accordingly; though the claims of the members of my family against the government amounted in the aggregate to about \$700,000, am not influenced thereby in my action; the clause in Tilden's letter saying he would veto such claims as mine did not influence my course; I am surveyor of the port and president of the State board of returning officers, but do not think the holding of both positions is in contravention to Grant's orders that no federal officer shall hold a State office; do not receive any fixed compensation as a member of the returning board, but receive a per diem and mileage; expect the Legislature to make an appropriation for the members of the returning board; have a receipt book to show when the returns were received, whether by mail or otherwise; believe the law says that the returns shall be made by mail, but I did not construe it that way; kept a minute book of all proceedings of the board; no minutes were taken in secret session; they were made afterwards; if I stated to the committee in the letter of the board refusing to give up all the papers, that being a State officer I could not work with the records, I did it under a wrong construction of the law. The board filled the vacancy in 1874 caused by the resignation of Gen. Longstreet, but did not fill the vacancy in 1875 caused by the resignation of Mr. Arroyo in 1875. Believe the law says there shall be a democrat on the board. Think it is the duty of the board to fill vacancies, but it did not fill the vacancy in 1876 because the board could not agree.

Witness was ordered to send for the minute book showing all the proceedings of the board, and the receipt books showing date of reception of returns and how received, whether by mail or otherwise. The law says the returns must be sealed and forwarded by supervisors of registration by mail. It was found when the minute book arrived that it did not contain the proceedings of the secret sessions, and witness stated that it was the wrong book.

Mr. Jenks, of the committee, read from the stubs—the torn off—the date of reception by the returning board of returns from parishes. In seven or eight instances entries showed returns had been received partly by mail and partly by hand. Two or three were marked as received by express, and the greater portion were not marked as being received either by mail or express. When the books had gone through the witness stated that since he had heard its contents read he did not believe the board had any other receipt book.

The House committee in executive session instructed Mr. Morrison, chairman, to report the members of the returning board to the House for contempt in refusing to produce the records called for.

The Senate committee considered the question of the mode of proceeding with the investigation, and it was shown that there would be about five hundred witnesses in regard to matters in the twenty-two parishes in question.

A lengthy discussion ensued in regard to the best means of reaching the object aimed at, viz., whether or not there was a full, free and fair election in the contested parishes. It was the general opinion that this could best be secured by examining and completing the parish records separately, and that the respective counsel might sit the testimony of their witnesses and leave out all except the most important testimony, and thus avoid much labor and waste of time. As it appears from the tabulated statements furnished by the returning board that the polls have been rejected in twenty-two parishes, the labor necessary to determine the fairness of the election in these alone would be very great. It was finally agreed to proceed with Ousebaha parish.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The meeting of conservative taxpayers, in Charleston, last night, was the largest ever held within doors in Charleston. Hibernian Hall, the most spacious in the city, was densely crowded, the lower floor being packed with those unable to find room in the hall where the meeting was held, and the streets outside were lined with hundreds of persons who could not get into the building. The proceedings were entirely harmonious.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted, and a committee appointed to carry them into effect:

Resolved, That the conservative citizens of Charleston county, democrats and republicans, do recognize Wade Hampton, and none other, as the lawful Governor of South Carolina; to him alone will they yield as Governor obedience and support, and to him they pledge such aid, assistance, moral, financial and material, as may be required for the establishment and maintenance of the constitutional government of which he is head.

Resolved, That we recognize W. D. Simpson, and none other, as the lawful Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina, and that we recognize the House of which Hon. W. H. Wallace is Speaker as the "legally constituted House of Representatives" of South Carolina.

Resolved, That D. H. Chamberlain having been defeated at the polls as a candidate for re-election, and placed in office upon the declaration of an illegal General Assembly, by the use of an unconstitutional use of military force, is regarded by us as an usurper, and we here and now declare our unchangeable resolution never to recognize him as Governor, and every act and every act of the pretended Lieutenant Governor, and every act of the pretended General Assembly, as being without authority of law, and null and void.

Resolved, That while we, by these resolutions, assert our right and determination to be governed only by officers whom the majority of the people have chosen, and while we are fixed in purpose to oppose to the uttermost the efforts of D. H. Chamberlain and his associates to usurp the functions of the government in this State, we expressly disclaim any intent to resist the execution of processes of the United States courts, however harsh they may seem, or to resist under any circumstances the military force of the United States.

Resolved, That the pretended government of which D. H. Chamberlain is head has no power, force or authority, save what is given to it by the continuous support and actual use of United States troops. It is a creature of political fraud and armed force, without that armed force it is as impotent as it is audacious and unlawful.

The Columbia correspondent of the Baltimore Sun under date of last night, says: Chamberlain's new programme, it is said, is to issue a proclamation on Monday for Hampton and Simpson on Wednesday. If his proclamation is not obeyed Chamberlain, it is claimed, has the assurance from the majority of the Cabinet and from Grant himself that the President will follow it up with a similar proclamation immediately, announcing that if this too is disobeyed he will bring the whole land and naval force of the United States, it is necessary to "crush the insurgents"—in short, Chamberlain and Grant intend to carry out exactly the same programme they did with reference to the rifle clubs.

It appears that Chamberlain has given up the idea of passing the treason bill, as the committee made no report upon it to-day. His plan is to take everything upon an effort to enforce by the bayonet, without additional legislation, the recognition of his assumed authority as Governor.

There has been a rumor about that the troops are to be removed from the State House, but it is probably premature. One of the republican sergeants-at-arms asserts positively that they will be removed on Tuesday next. The Chamberlain crowd evidently anticipate no immediate action further than the publication of the proclamation of the sham governor. The Chamberlain Legislature will probably adjourn sine die to-morrow. Hampton's House of Representatives will probably take a recess.

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The Congressional Committee is still engaged in procuring evidence concerning the missing returns. The result is expected to-morrow. Thirty-five of the Election Return field hands, brought here by District Attorney Corbin and used by the Senatorial Committee, have also been summoned by the republicans on the House Committee, and have thus been paid \$2 day and mileage by both committees. These negroes have thus been getting an average of \$15 per day each, and have not even testified before the House Committee.

The meeting of conservative citizens at Charleston, last night, was as remarkably for its solidly representative character as its numbers. Most of the leading merchants and bankers were present, and every class of property-holders, including colored people, were among its officers. The temper of the meeting was unmistakable. Every recommendation that no taxes be paid the Chamberlain government was applauded to the echo, and whenever Hampton's name was mentioned, even accidentally, the hall resounded with cheers.

Hitherto the tax-paying classes here, who pay one-fourth the whole State tax, have been reluctant to take any step looking to a refusal to pay taxes, however oppressive, but they now feel they have the law on their side and are resolved to starve out the imperial government. At the same time they will respond to any call made by Hampton for the means of carrying on his government.

FLORIDA.

The Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives has made a clear case of fraud in the canvass of precinct No. 13, Leon county, said. "It is so complete a case that Mr. Dunnell, republican, abandoned it after the first witness was heard. He never asked another question or put in another witness. He will concur with us in our report on this case. He told a friend to-day that it was a piece of transparent fraud." The N. Y. Herald's correspondent asked Mr. Dunnell his opinion of this case. He laughed and said: "Why, there can be only one opinion on that. He pronounces it a fraud. One hundred and seventy-six republican votes are involved in this precinct. The board canvassed it without discussion."

WE MUST FRATERNIZE OR FIGHT.—This solemn truth stares the American people in the face to-day. No other alternative can be presented to the events that are passing.

The South, under the guidance of Southern democrats and with the advice of the Northern Bourbons, rebelled, and the North, led by the republican party, annihilated that rebellion. Ever since then the Southern people have been laboring under the chain at their overwhelming defeat, and the North has been viewing their every action with suspicion and distrust. This condition of things must cease before prosperity and permanent peace can come to the country.

The people of the two powerful sections constantly looking at each other through jaundiced eyes means ultimate internecine war and disintegration. How, then, can this dangerous state of affairs be reconciled? There is but one way. That is the fraternization in sincerity and honesty of the two elements which meet face to face on the battle field. These two elements are the Southern democrats and the Northern and Southern republicans. The copperhead democracy was a sneaking, canting, insidious, treacherous element, respected neither at home nor abroad, in the South nor in the North. It has no claims on the South, and it has no claims on the republicans of the North, except its scornful contempt. It acted as a cowardly passive element during the war; it must act as a minus quantity in the fraternization of the two elements now.

Sensible men begin to see the necessity of this new departure. To see that this sectional bitterness must cease or the republic will die. The crime of rebellion was a terrible crime, but the sin of this continued sectional hate is almost of equal criminality, as it is doing slowly what the rebellion attempted to do by a bold and sudden blow—it is sapping the life blood of the nation.

Southern statesmanship, if wise, will seize the opportunity offered them in this crisis to obliterate forever their alliance with the riff raff element of copperhead democracy, whose counsels led them into war, and whose cowardice can never bring them peace.

With this alliance broken, it will be easy to form a satisfactory coalition between the North and South on the basis of civil liberty and full equality before the law to all citizens, irrespective of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. This fraternal coalition will bring peace and rest to our distracted country. What if the republic must inevitably die?—Wash. Rep.

DEATH OF AN OLD VIRGINIAN.—Mr. James W. Garner, an old resident of Washington, died yesterday, aged 71 years. He was born in Westmoreland county, Va., in 1806, and from thence removed to Washington, in 1835. He was subsequently appointed to a place in the Treasury Department, where he remained a faithful and efficient officer for about thirty-three years.

Letter from Richmond.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 21, 1876.—The Legislature will adjourn Saturday for three days. The members do not relish this much but they will have to stand it. An old darkey here who used to wait on Mr. Austin Neal, of Richmond county, says, "I never heard of such a thing. When Mr. Austin Neal was in the Legislature he used to take two weeks' holiday for Christmas. But white people gettin' mighty close these days anyhow—aint like they used to be." The old fellow's head is level I am inclined to think.

The Speaker of the House to-day laid a communication before that body from Gov. Kemper, transmitting a renewed application from the War Department of the United States to cede to the General Assembly of Virginia to cede to the United States jurisdiction over certain lands in this State, now occupied as National cemeteries. The communication was referred to the Committee on Courts. There will be no trouble about this. A bill for this object was prepared last winter, but it was not reached on the calendar.

The report of the President and Secretary of the State Board of Immigration was presented to the General Assembly this morning. The report shows little progress in securing immigrants. The expenditures of the Board since the last annual report have been \$4,601.54. The report states that Henry Maury's Physical Survey of Virginia has been placed in the hands of Gen. Francis H. Smith, who will prepare for publication. Five thousand copies of "Hotchkiss' Geographical and Political Summary of Virginia" were published. Of these 99 copies have been sold at the price fixed upon. The Board now ask that the law under which they act may be so modified as to allow them to distribute the work in such quantities as they may deem best, which means in plain English that finding they cannot sell them they deem it best to give them away rather than let them rot in the basement of the Capitol.

If any one expects the Legislature to get away from here early this winter he will be mistaken. The two bodies have not yet begun to work, and they will have a great deal of it to do. The Constitutional amendments are to be put into effect, and these alone will require an amount of well matured legislation that will stagger an average legislator, and cause him to wrangle and eat oysters here until Spring time. Then there are many other important matters to be considered. The revision of the Code will require time. The Code amenders and re-enactors will have a glorious time over this.

The Committee on Revision of Criminal Laws are authorized to employ a clerk. Two gentlemen are named for this work. J. M. Mathews, the law book writer, and Hon. J. L. Mayne, ex-Lieutenant Governor. It will require a thoroughly competent clerk, and he will have his hands full. The committee will be allowed a sub-committee to aid them in their work.

The House, to-day, passed a bill authorizing the Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company to record mortgages and deeds of trust under certain conditions. The title was amended by adding, "Washington." It also passed the bill to amend and re-enact sections two and five of an act to provide for the working of the roads in the counties of Shenandoah, Page and Rockingham, and a bill to amend the Code fixing the pay of the Adjutant General. All are House bills.

The Legislative Committee on Retrenchment have reported against the abolition of the office of Superintendent of Public Printing.

In the House to-day the bill to amend the code in regard to admission to the public free schools, came up on its second reading.

Under the present law many parents or guardians escape the payment of the capitation tax because the school session is over, or half over, before the expiration of the time in which the tax may be paid. The bill proposes that a receipt for the capitation tax of the preceding year shall be exhibited as a prerequisite to admission of the child or children.

The bill led to a long debate, chiefly on the question whether, in view of the amendment to the constitution depriving of the right of suffrage all who fail pay the capitation tax, there shall be any obstacle to the admission of children to the public schools.

COMMUNICATIONS.

WHAT SHALL WE BUY FOR CHRISTMAS?—Will you allow me to answer this question through your columns for the benefit of friends who have asked it? And in doing so I would say buy a good and pleasant book, that will interest and amuse your children many days after toys are broken or have ceased to please.

"Helen's Babies" has had such great popularity because Budge and Toddy have their counterpart in almost every family of bright, intelligent children, and their sayings and doings find an echo in every one's memories of such families. Who does not know some persistent little darling who "wants to see the weeds go round" forty times a day? So a book of "rhymes and jingles," like that by Mary Mapes Dodge, will give unceasing pleasure, and the grown up reader can say its pleasant verses over often enough to satisfy even Budge without the sickening sensation of weariness that Mother Goose will give. Children are delighted by the recurrence of the same word, or the idea with a slight variation, and such a jingle as this I find very popular among my little folks:

"Two little girls are better than one,
Two little boys can double the fun;
Two little birds can build a fine nest,
Two little arms can love mother best;
Two little ponies must go to a span,
Two little pockets has my little man."

Let all who can afford to buy a good book whose pictures will delight a whole family of children get "Helen's Babies." "Robin's Christmas Eve" is a pretty little story told in paper covers and bright pictures, and "Anne and Willie's Prayer" in the same way. For a girl of thirteen no better story book can be found than "Stories for Stories" by Jean Ingelow. "The Stolen Treasure," perhaps the longest of them is the delight of a school girl's heart. No better Christmas present can be given to a family than to take the St. Nicholas for them, or if the children are of larger growth "Scribner's Monthly." Do my dear friends buy a good book.

S. M.

Mrs. Sidney A. Howard has been appointed postmaster at Flint Hill, Rappahannock county, Va., vice Howard Compton, resigned. E. B. Burgess has been appointed postmaster at Burgess's store, Northumberland county, Va., vice T. J. Downing, resigned.

MARRIED.

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1876, at St. Mary's church, in this city, by Rev. A. P. Keagy, E. C. CASSELL, of Washington, and Miss ELLA V. HALLIP, of Fairfax co. No cards.

NEW AND CHEAP DRESS GOODS.—We received to-day a new lot of Cheap Dress Goods, viz: PORTIA, PEEBLES and BAGSHAW, and all the latest at 1 1/2 per yard very desirable. We have a few very handsome CLOAKS in stock, which we sell at about cost.

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MANASSAS, VA., Dec. 20, 1876.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette: The unfortunate political complications growing out of the late Presidential election threaten us with one of the most terrible evils that ever afflicted any people. Such disasters can only be averted by wisdom, moderation and justice. Slander and insult only aggravate and complicate the matters in dispute. Facts, law and reason decide questions, and not abuse and brute force. Each party to the contest claims to have right on its side, and there is no power or plan yet devised to which the questions in controversy can be referred for an authoritative decision. Humanity and the essential interests of the whole country demand that this vexed and dangerous subject should be settled upon principles of law, reason and patriotism. Of course I refer to the manner of counting the electoral votes for President and the great frauds committed by the republican returning boards in South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, with the view and hope of defeating Gov. Tilden's election. The words of the Constitution, in reference to counting the electoral votes for President, are these: "The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted."

Upon this provision of the Constitution, Chancellor Kent, in his commentaries, makes the following ambiguous and unsatisfactory comments: "The Constitution does not expressly declare by whom the votes are to be counted, and the result declared. In the case of questionable votes, and a closely contested election, this power may be all important; and I presume, in the absence of all legislative provision on the subject, that the President of the Senate counts the votes and determines the result, and that the two houses are present only as spectators, to witness the fairness and accuracy of the transactions, and to act only if no choice be made by the electors. The House of Representatives, in such a case, are to choose immediately the President."

The presumptions of a commentator on law are worth no more than those of an unprofessional individual. He should state what the law is in a given case, and give legal reasons to support it. Opinions or presumptions, without facts and legal principles to sustain them, deserve no more consideration, in matters of law, than those of a private individual. The presumptions of a judge are rather an evidence that he does not understand the case, and is desirous of making the "worst appear the better cause."

To suppose that the two houses of Congress are required to be present at the counting of the Presidential vote, and must sit as mere figure-heads to give dignity to fraud, is to count in the electoral vote, is too manifestly absurd to be entertained for a moment. Such a notion is plainly contrary to the provisions of the Constitution, law, reason, justice and sound policy. But, if the count and decision of the President of the Senate are to be as final, above review, and irreversible, then the President of the Senate may defeat, with impunity, the will and votes of the people, by fraudulently forcing upon them a President against their wishes, and thus plunge the country into all the horrors of a civil war. The language of Chancellor Kent, that the two houses are present to "witness the fairness" of the count, and his presumption that in the absence of any law on the subject, the President of the Senate has the legal right to count the electoral vote and declare the result, only proves that even great lawyers are not "always wise."

It certainly requires no reasoning to prove that if the two houses are present to "witness the fairness and accuracy of the transaction," it is clear that they have a legal right, and it is their solemn duty to see that the count is fairly made. In the absence of any law or joint rules for the two houses as to counting the electoral vote, each house of Congress has the right to object to the counting of the electoral vote, votes or vote of any State, and no vote so objected to, can be legally counted without the consent of both houses, and any attempt to do so is revolutionary and treasonable. I doubt not that the republicans themselves would see and acknowledge the legality as well as the justice of this view of the case, if they had a majority in the present House of Representatives.

The frauds committed in South Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana, by the republican returning boards, in order to cheat Gov. Tilden out of his election, will justify the House in refusing to count the electoral vote of those States, by which the election of the President will devolve on the House of Representatives, on and after the second Wednesday in February, 1877. Besides, the important fact that a number of persons have been appointed electors on the republican ticket, and voted for as such, who are ineligible for that office under the Constitution, which declares that "no person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector," defeats the election of President by the people, and thus throws the election in the House.

The appointment of electors to take the place of the ineligible appointees, after the election, does not cure the error, unless there is a special law for that purpose. It is as much impossible to fill the place of such illegal appointments after the election, without a special law for that object, as it would be in case a naturalized citizen was nominated and elected President through a mistake, to appoint another person to take his place after the election, when the error was discovered. These errors are fatal to the election by the people, and that important constitutional duty is now vested in the present House of Representatives.

Whether the House will do its duty in this grave matter, and be sustained by the people, shall not attempt to discuss. My own opinion is that those who will not die, when necessary, in defense of their liberty, essential rights and honor, deserve to live as contemptible slaves. It is to be hoped, however, that the honest and patriotic portion of the republican party will acquiesce in the election of Governor Tilden, and thus give a peaceable solution to the question.

ROBERT TANSILL.

GEN. BUTLER'S PROPOSITION.—Gen. E. B. Butler, in a recent conversation concerning the Presidential trouble, stated that he did not believe it possible for any compromise of the question to be effected. He said that there had been so much taint attaching to the States connected with the late Presidential contest that in his judgment it will be impracticable for either party to purge itself of the wrongs alleged against it so as to satisfy the great mass of the American people, who are anxious to see the right prevail in the contest. Neither party would be content to believe by any possible showing that the other is not entirely in fault, for the present condition of affairs.

The General suggests that Congress go to work at once and pass a special election law calling for a new election to take place, say in May next, and have such safeguards thrown around the election at all points as to preclude the chances of unfairness or fraud either of registration or of subsequent canvass of the votes, and in that way honestly endeavor to have a free expression of the will of the majority, and have that expression carried into effect by the inauguration of the Presidential candidate so chosen. In the meantime the acting Vice President of the United States could conduct the Government and step out upon the inauguration of the candidate chosen by a majority of the electors.

The boatmen on the canal have all tied up, and are getting their mules quartered for the winter.

COMMERCIAL.

Monetary affairs remain at a standstill. There is no very active demand, but the unsettled condition of political affairs continues to have a depressing effect upon business generally. Money in New York is easily obtainable at 5 1/2 per cent. on call, and 5 1/2 per cent. on prime mercantile paper. In Baltimore the rate is from 5 1/2 per cent. on good paper. Government bonds continue strong, while the fluctuations in Gold are slight. State bonds are firm, with sales of Virginia consols at 104 1/2. In railroad securities there has been but little doing, and we quote:

Orange, Alex. & Man.	104 1/2
Orange & Alex. 6 1/2	104 1/2
Orange & Alex. 5 1/2	104 1/2
Orange & Alex. 4 1/2	